

of return for your money,” that would enable a mom or a dad to pass on their assets to whomever they chose, that would encourage portability, but that makes sense. It makes sense. The more somebody owns something in America, the more they’re going to have a vital stake in the future of this country.

The State of Ohio has incorporated a lot of really important principles in this bill, Ray, and I want to thank you for that. One of the key principles is, Government has got to trust people. The more Government trusts people, trusts people with their own money, the more content, the more prosperous our society will be.

And so I want to thank you all for sharing with us. I hope you found it as educational as I have. I look forward to continuing to take this message to the people of the United States of America. I have great faith in the wisdom of the people of this country, and I fully understand that when the people of this country understand the depth of the problem that a young generation of Americans is going to face, and when senior citizens understand that they’re going to get their check, the question is going to start to be to Members of Congress of both political parties, “How come you’re not fixing it,” because America is going to realize that every year we wait it’s going to cost the young generation of Americans \$600 billion to make this right.

And here’s a fascinating idea, started right here in the great State of Ohio, sponsored by both Republicans and Democrats, that’s working. And Congress needs to pay attention to things that work.

Thank you all for coming, and God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:03 p.m. at Lakeland Community College. In his remarks, he referred to Representative Steven C. LaTourette of Ohio, who introduced the President; Mayor Edward J. Podojil of Kirtland, OH; and Mayor David E. Anderson of Willoughby, OH. Discussion participant Scott Johnson referred to Gov. Bob Taft of Ohio.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President’s public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

April 9

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

April 11

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Prime Minister Sharon.

April 12

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Fort Hood, TX, where he had lunch with U.S. military personnel.

In the afternoon, at Fort Hood, the President met with family members of U.S. military personnel killed in Iraq. Later, he returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the evening.

The President announced his intention to nominate Alex M. Azar II to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The President announced his intention to nominate David R. Hill to be General Counsel at the Department of Energy.

The President announced his intention to nominate Brian D. Montgomery to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (Federal Housing Commissioner).

The President announced his intention to nominate Phyllis F. Scheinberg to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Budgets and Programs and, upon appointment, to designate her as Chief Financial Officer.

The President announced his intention to nominate Craig Roberts Stapleton to be Ambassador to France.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of the Presidential delegation to attend the funeral mass of Prince Rainier III of Monaco on April 15: John Lehman (head of delegation); Howard H. Leach; and Leslie McBee.

April 13

In the morning, in his private dining room, the President had breakfast with congressional leaders. He then had an intelligence briefing and met with the National Security Council. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Later in the morning, in the Oval Office, the President met with 2005 Presidents Cup cocaptains Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player and Professional Golf Association Tour Director Tim Finchem. Later, in the Cabinet Room, he met with Republican congressional leaders.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia to the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, on April 25.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Martin Torrijos of Panama to the White House on April 28.

April 14

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, he met with Minister of External Affairs K. Natwar Singh of India.

Later in the morning, in the Cabinet Room, the President met with Republican Members of the House of Representatives to discuss Social Security reform. Later, in the Oval Office, he participated in an interview with representatives of sports media. Later, also in the Oval Office, he met with outgoing President James D. Wolfensohn of the World Bank.

In the afternoon, the President participated in a photo opportunity with 2004 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching recipients.

In the evening, at Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium, the President threw out the first pitch to open the Major League Baseball game between the Washington Nationals and the Arizona Diamondbacks. He and Mrs. Bush and family members then watched the game.

April 15

In the morning, the President met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld. He then had an intelligence briefing.

Also in the morning, in the Oval Office, the President met with Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker of Luxembourg. Later, also in the Oval Office, he met with President Paul Kagame of Rwanda.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Cleveland, OH, arriving in the afternoon. Upon arrival at the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Anita Isom.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Mentor, OH, where, he had coffee with small-business owners at the Yours Truly restaurant. He then traveled to Kirtland, OH.

Later in the afternoon, the President traveled to Camp David, MD.

The President announced his intention to nominate Raymond Simon to be Deputy Secretary of Education and to designate him as Acting Deputy Secretary of Education.

The President announced his intention to designate John A. Russack as the program manager responsible for information sharing across the Federal Government, pursuant to section 1016(f) of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council: Bruce Lawrence Bialosky; Marek J. Chodakiewicz; Itchko Ezratti; Marilyn R. Fox; JoAnne Ginsberg; Constance B. GirardiCarlo; Norman Hascoe; Marcia McCraw Horwitz; Edward Koch; Michael I. Lebovitz; Elena Neuman Lefkowitz; Steven M. Levy; and William F. Weld.

The President declared a major disaster in Arizona and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on February 10–15.

The President declared a major disaster in California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mud and debris flows on February 16–23.

The President declared a major disaster in Pennsylvania and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on April 2 and continuing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted April 11

Lt. Gen. Michael V. Hayden, USAF, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence (new position).

Submitted April 14

Robert J. Portman, of Ohio, to be U.S. Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, vice Robert B. Zoellick, resigned.

Eduardo Aguirre, Jr., of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Spain, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Andorra.

David R. Hill, of Missouri, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy, vice Lee Sarah Liberman Otis, resigned.

Phyllis F. Scheinberg, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Transportation, vice Linda Morrison Combs.

Emil M. Skodon, of Illinois, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam.

Craig Roberts Stapleton, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to France.

Submitted April 15

Raymond Simon, of Arkansas, to be Deputy Secretary of Education, vice Eugene Hickok, resigned.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released April 11

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released April 12

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary: Congolese Government's Negotiations With FDLR

Released April 13

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary on the upcoming visit of Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia

Statement by the Press Secretary on the upcoming visit of President Torrijos of Panama

Released April 14

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released April 15

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1134